THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay is producing indigenously radio-active materials like cobalt, Caesium-137, IODINE-131, Phosphorus-32, Technicium-99 etc. and the Centre is meeting the entire requirement of the country.

(c) At present cobalt tele-therapy units are not being produced in this country. However, a letter of Indent has been issued to M/s. Larsen and Toubro Ltd. in October, 1987 for the manufacture of cobalt tele-therapy simulators and accessories.

Supply of radio-therapy equipment to India

1868. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of countries are supplying radio-therapy equipment to India;

(b) if so, what are the names of those countries and the extent to which equipment from those countries is being used in this country; and

(c) whether it is a fact that quite a number of radio-therapy units, which were fabricated in India several years ago, are lying unutilized or under-utilized because of bad workmanship; if so, what steps are being taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The import of Cobalt Therapy Unit is covered under Open General Licence and hospitals and institutions do not have to approach the Government for permission to import them Therefore, the, details of countries from which they are imported etc., are not available.

(c) The Government is not aware of any radio-therapy units fabricated in India lying unutilized or under-utilized because of bad workmanship.

Applications for installation of Radio Therapy Units

1869. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the standing Committee on Radio therapy had met recently to consider the applications from various medical institutions to instal radio therapy units;

(b) what are the details of each application approved by the Committee and of those which are still pending;

(c) whether Government propose to consider fixing a time limit for taking decision on the applications for radio-therapy in view of the need of this equipment to treat cancer patients; and

(d) whether Government also propose to increase the amount of grant/subsidy to various recognised medical institutions setting up radio-therapy units in view of the rising costs of both the equipment and the infrastructural facilities and if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Standing Committee on Tele-Therapy Units met on the 26th July, 1988 and considered all the 23 applications received. The Committee approved the applications received